GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2349
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2003
PATIENTS OF GENERAL WARD AT AIIMS
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the patients admitted in General Ward of AIIMS are entitled for free medicines;

(b) if so, whether patients of General Ward are given prescriptions for purchasing each and every medicine including cotton gauge and syringes from the market;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether a number of patients are waiting for a life saving surgery at the AIIMS and other Government hospitals;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount incurred by AIIMS in procuring medicines for free distribution in General Ward during the last three years till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (c): In AIIMS, New Delhi, patients admitted in general ward are provided with all basic medicines listed in the Hospital Drug test free of cost. The patients requiring high cost antibiotics, nutritional supplements, anti-cancer drugs, dialysis fluids etc. have to procure them themselves. However, the poor and indigent patients who cannot afford these medicines are provided such medicines free of cost under recommendation of the treating physicians and Medical Social Services Officer.

(d)&(e): No patient is kept in waiting in AIIMS for emergency operation. Efforts are made to admit such patients and undertake emergency operations when indicated within available beds in the Hospital. There is however a waiting list of different specialist procedures for elective surgery for a period ranging from six months to three years. In other Central Government Hospitals also, the patients requiring life saving surgeries are taken up on priority basis.

(f): The expenditure incurred by AIIMS in procuring medicines for free distribution in patients care areas is as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

2000-01	591.00
2001-02	882.66
2002-03	1266.10